

heating at least some of the mixture within said sealed chamber so that said oil is vaporized into smoke to create a carrier for said fluorescent dye;

delivering said smoke and said fluorescent dye carried thereby from said sealed chamber to the fluid system under test, whereby said smoke will exit a leak in the fluid system and said fluorescent dye will leave a fluorescent trace around the leak; and

shining ultraviolet light on the system under test to illuminate the trace left by the fluorescent dye around the leak.

2. (Amended) The method for detecting leaks recited in claim 1, including the additional step of locating said heating element within said sealed chamber.

8. (Amended) The method for detecting leaks recited in claim 4, including the additional step of blowing said at least some of said uniform mixture of oil and fluorescent dye towards said heating element by means of a non-combustible gas delivered under pressure to said mixture from a gas source.

9. (Amended) The method for detecting leaks recited in claim 8, wherein said non-combustible gas is nitrogen.

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11. A method for detecting leaks in a fluid system to be tested comprising the steps of:

adding a fluorescent dye to a supply of oil to form a uniform mixture;

blowing at least some of said uniform mixture of oil and fluorescent dye towards a heating element by means of a non-combustible nitrogen gas delivered under pressure to said mixture;

heating the blown mixture by said heating element so that said oil is vaporized into smoke to create a carrier for said fluorescent dye;

delivering said smoke and said fluorescent dye carried thereby to the fluid system under test, whereby said smoke will exit a leak in the fluid system and said fluorescent dye will leave a fluorescent trace around the leak; and

shining ultraviolet light on the system under test to illuminate the trace left by the fluorescent dye around the leak.

REMARKS

The claims appearing in this patent application following amendment are claims 1-11, inclusive. No claims have been cancelled. Independent claim 11 is recited for the first time. Claims 1, 2, 8 and 9 are amended.

Claims 1-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the applicants' original patent to Pieroni et al (5,922,944) in view of the patent to Scott (4,155,249). This rejection is respectfully traversed.